

Legislative Reference Service

WEEK ENDING 1-28-00

NO. 2

CODE ENFORCEMENT

H-6979 CONTRACTORS' REGISTRATION (Kennedy & Others) This act would require a contractor subject to the Contractors' Registration Act to disclose its state registration license number in all bids with the state, municipality or private party. Corporations

H-7011 SERVICE OF PROCESS (Faria) This act requires landlords residing outside Rhode Island to designate an agent for service of process. Judiciary

S-2153 HOISTING ENGINEERS (Badeau) This act prohibits hoisting engineers from installing electrical wiring or making service connection of any electrical wires or cables, but allows for the excavation and installation of underground conduits and provides for issuance of building permits for the installation. Labor

EDUCATION AND SCHOOLS

H-6955 ADVANCED DIPLOMAS (McNamara & Others) This act would require the Board of Education and Regents to provide advanced diplomas to those students who have reached higher than minimum state academic standards and also to grant automatic admission to such students who have met the standards. H.E.W.

H-6967 COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES PROHIBITED (Kennedy & Others) This act would remove the ban on fundraising in schools. Finance

H-6971 SCHOOL DISCIPLINE (Hetherington & Others) This act would provide that the public schools would impose penalties on students for possession of alcohol, drugs, or

weapons, pursuant to rules and regulations promulgated by the applicable school committee. Judiciary

H-6974 REGIONALIZATION BONUSES (Gorham & Others) This act would reestablish Section 16-7-20.5 of the General Laws as the method by which regionalization bonuses would be computed. Finance

H-7015 COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES PROHIBITED (Henseler & Others) This act would repeal the prohibition against commercial activities by teachers in public schools. H.E.W.

H-7027 SCHOOL BUDGETS (C. Levesque) This act would amend the appeals process by providing that the school committee appeal to the commissioner of education, whose decision would be appealable to the superior court. H.E.W.

H-7044 FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES (Palumbo & Others) This act would permit school superintendents to promulgate rules and regulations that would allow students to participate in certain fundraising activities through their school. H.E.W.

H-7055 SCHOOL BUSES (Jacquard & Others) This act would require that effective August 1, 2000, all school buses purchased for use in the state be equipped with safety belts for each passenger and operator seat, and further require mandatory safety belt use by the school bus operator and each passenger. H.E.W.

H-7056 SCHOOL BUSES (Jacquard & Others) This act provides that effective August 1, 2000, every school bus shall be equipped with safety belts for each passenger seat and provides for mandatory safety belt use by the operator of the school bus and each passenger. Highway Safety

S-2139 PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES (Izzo & Others) This act would enhance the prohibition against public school employees accepting money for tutoring students under his/her instruction during the school year, and prohibits the selling of commercial goods or services to public school students, or on public school property, including fundraising. H.E.W.

S-2160 KINDERGARTEN (Cicilline & Others) This act would permit all students eligible for kindergarten to attend full day kindergarten programs. Finance

S-2168 SCHOOL ATTENDANCE (Igliozi) This act would establish an elementary and secondary education truancy investment fund in order to enable school districts to improve attendance rates. Finance

S-2191 TEACHER CERTIFICATION (Oster) This act would establish a Rhode Island education certification board, which would be empowered to issue teacher certifications and would also deal with issues related to teacher certification. H.E.W.

ELECTIONS

H-7001 COMPUTER BALLOTS (S. Anderson) This act decreases the time a local board would be required to store computer ballots after an election from 26 months to 6 months. Special Legislation

H-7097 POLITICAL PARTIES (Garabedian) This act would provide that any political organization that obtains the requisite 5% of the vote would qualify as a political party for the next 4 years. Special Legislation

S-2152 PARTY CANDIDATES (Coderre & Others) This act would provide that a person could not be a candidate for more than one seat at a time in the same election year. Judiciary

ENVIRONMENT

H-7019 WATER AND SEWER LINES (Barr, II) This act requires water and sewer companies to maintain water and sewer lines wherever located from the street to the building being serviced. Corporations

H-7057 PUBLIC DRINKING WATER SUPPLY (Moura & Others) This act requires suppliers of water to annually notify households within the supplier's service area of the results of water testing. Water Resources

FINANCE AND TAXATION

H-6966 SCHOOL AID – VOCATIONAL EDUCATION (Kennedy & Others) This act would allow funding equity for vocational-technical education. Finance

H-7041 REAL ESTATE CONVEYANCE TAX (G. Levesque & Carroll) This act would increase real estate tax to \$2.00 per \$500 paid for the property. Finance

H-7052 AUTOMOBILE INVENTORY (SanBento & Others) This act would exempt the inventory of a new automobile dealers held by the dealers for sale in the normal course of business from the municipal property tax. Finance

H-7060 VIDEO LOTTERY TERMINALS (G. Levesque) This act would amend the allocation of net terminal income derived from video lottery games. Finance

H-7063 TAX SALES (SanBento & Others) This act would amend certain provisions of the law relating to tax sales, including the taxing entities entitled to a lien and the manner of notice of tax sales. Finance

H-7092 TARGETED SCHOOL AID (Jacquard & Palumbo) This act would remove the requirement that school districts have a free and reduced lunch count in grades K-3 greater than 40% in order to receive targeted school aid. Finance

S-2163 PAYMENT IN LIEU (Cicilline & Others) This act increases the Pilot Program reimbursement to the cities and towns over the next 5 years. Finance

S-2165 PAYMENT IN LIEU (Cicilline & Others) This act would increase the Pilot Program reimbursement to the cities and towns over the next 5 years. Finance

LABOR RELATIONS

H-6994 FIREFIGHTERS' ARBITRATION (Lanzi & Others) This act would require that the rights or benefits conferred on employees by an expiring collective bargaining agreement would continue until a new agreement is ratified. Labor

H-7002 MUNICIPAL POLICE ARBITRATION (S. Anderson) This act would include probationary patrolmen under the definition of police officers for purposes of this chapter. Labor

LIQUOR CONTROL & LICENSES

H-6950 SUNDAY SALES (Vieira & Others) This act would allow the holders of Class A liquor licenses to open on Sundays which precede Christmas and New Year holidays that fall on Monday. Special Legislation

S-2170 SUNDAY SALES (Celona & Tocco – By Request) This act would permit Class A license holders to open for business on Sundays during the holiday season. Special Legislation

S-2194 SUNDAY SALES (Cote & Others) This act would permit a Class A retail license holder to sell beverages on December 24, 2000, and December 31, 2000. Special Legislation

PLANNING AND ZONING

H-6993 ZONING ORDINANCES (C. Levesque & Others) This act would include persons with a disability or who are over sixty-five (65) years of age under the definition of zoning for an accessory family dwelling unit, and gives the local zoning board the authority to adopt rules and regulations governing the issuance and renewal of zoning certificates issued for that purpose. Corporations

PUBLIC SAFETY – POLICE AND FIRE

H-6958 PUBLIC RECORDS (Flaherty & Farrell) This act would prohibit the disclosure of the home address or phone number of law enforcement, correctional, and other public safety or criminal justice personnel, by a custodian of a public record. Judiciary

H-6964 LAW ENFORCEMENT VEHICLES (S. Anderson) This act would require the Division of Motor Vehicles to inspect the law enforcement vehicles of each city or town. Finance

H-6996 FIREFIGHTERS AND POLICE OFFICERS (Lanzi & Others) This act would provide for a payment of a one time \$100,000 benefit to the family of a firefighter, police officer and certain other persons who are killed or die from injuries sustained in the line of duty. Corporations

H-7023 EMERGENCY VEHICLES (Lanzi & Others) This act would provide that an operator of an emergency vehicle who is involved in an accident while returning from an emergency, enroute to/or from official business, shall not be affected, by reason of any civil negligence, in his/her right to operate a motor vehicle. Corporations

H-7089 PENALTIES FOR MURDER (Jacquard) This act would provide for a mandatory death sentence for any individual found guilty of murdering a police officer. Judiciary

H-7095 UNLAWFUL FIREARMS (Jacquard & Others) This act establishes a procedure for the forfeiture and destruction of unlawful firearms seized by police departments in the state. Judiciary

S-2149 NON-MOVING TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS (DaPonte & Others) This act would make a municipality's failure to comply with the requirements of this section ('Contents of Tag') grounds for dismissal of the citation. Judiciary

S-2167 THERMAL IMAGING DEVICES (Celona) This act would require the state to provide handheld thermal imaging devices to municipal fire departments and districts on a per capita basis. Finance

S-2196 PURCHASE OF FIREARMS (Tocco & Kells) This act would consolidate the applications for the purchase of firearms for all purchases including police, state marshals and correctional officers, and amend the application for the purchase of firearms. Judiciary

S-2205 PROTECTIVE VESTS (Connors & Others) This act would provide that city/town police officers be provided with bulletproof vests without cost to the police officer. Finance

RETIREMENT

H-6951 VESTING – NUMBER OF YEARS (Faria & Farrell) This act would reduce the numbers of years required for vesting in the state retirement system from 10 to 5 years. The act would require a member to be a contributing member of the system for at least 10 years in order for purchased service credit to be counted toward the member's total service credit. Finance

H-6960 POLICE AND FIREFIGHTERS (Lanzi & Others) This act would include all regular and permanent rescue service personnel and employees of any city, town or fire district within the framework of the optional retirement system that is presently limited to police officers and firefighters. Corporations

H-7006 ACCIDENTAL DISABILITY (C. Levesque) This act would require medical examination upon application for an accidental disability retirement by a teacher or state employee who sustains an injury which was the result of either an accident or was the result of activities undertaken over time, while in the performance of duty. Finance

H-7021 TEACHERS' RETIREMENT (Barr, II) This act would reduce the percentage of annual salary a teacher would be required to pay into the state retirement system from 9 ½% to 8 ½%, and would reduce contributions by all members of the retirement system from 8 ½% to 7 ½%. Finance

H-7024 RETIRED EMPLOYEES (C. Levesque) This act would allow retired public school teachers whose employers offered dental and/or prescription coverage to active employees on the date of the teacher's retirement, to purchase dental and/or prescription coverage, at their own expense, through their former employer at the group rate for active employees. Finance

H-7025 PURCHASE OF ADDITIONAL SERVICE CREDITS (C. Levesque) This act would provide that state employees, teachers and municipal employees can purchase additional service credits. Finance

S-2161 RETIREMENT BOARD (Celona & Others) This act would add 1 retired teacher to the retirement board. Finance

S-2187 TEACHERS' RETIREMENT (Felag & Others) This act would change the contribution made by the towns and state to the teachers' retirement. Finance

MISCELLANEOUS

H-7005 PUBLIC WORKS (C. Levesque) This act would include certain projects for private use as "public works". Finance

H-7017 PUBLIC WORKS - LABOR AND PAYMENT OF DEBTS BY CONTRACTORS (C. Levesque) This act would amend the definition of "Public Works" to include certain private projects constructed with the assistance of state or municipal funds. Labor

H-7018 TOBACCO PRODUCTS (Corvese & Others) This act would allow a city/town to enact an ordinance, although it is already addressed by state law. Corporations

H-7042 STATE HEALTH INSURANCE (G. Levesque & Others) This act would enable any employee of any city/town to participate in the state health benefits system at the same rate paid by the state for such benefits provided to state officers and employees, and upon payment of an additional fee of \$50.00. Corporations

S-2173 GAMBLING PROMOTERS (Cicilline & Others) This act would require a gambling promoter to file a financial disclosure statement with the Attorney General and the Secretary of State, and increase the number of days within which a town/city council may place a resolution on the ballot from 150 days to 210 days. Special Legislation

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